



Learning Exploration: A Tale of Two Rivers

Following on from our recent learning exploration about city growth, which looked at the importance of rivers for urbanisation, this exploration will strengthen the children's knowledge of the geographical and economic significance of rivers by looking at the Nile, in Egypt, and the Taw in North Devon.

Incorporating art and dance into the exploration will foster a deeper understanding of cultural differences and similarities between the two regions. For example, students will explore the different cultural traditions and practices associated with the two rivers, such as the importance of the Nile in ancient Egyptian culture, and the geographical significance of the Taw to the population of North Devon.



Hook into learning:

Children will use atlases and maps to create their own version of the game Top Trumps based on rivers. Which river will come out on top?

Journey through the exploration

- Children will learn about the water cycle as well as some of the geographical features of rivers and make geographical comparisons between the Nile and the Taw.
- Children will consider the differences between the areas of North Devon and Egypt and use empathy to look at the perspective of local inhabitants in relation to economic, social and environmental changes in those areas.
- Using the river as a stimulus, children will explore sculpture and look at the work of local artists that take inspiration from water and rivers. They will learn how clay can be harvested, including from rivers, and adapted using water to change its consistency.
- After learning about traditional Egyptian dance as well as traditional English dances, pupils will compose their own dance routine, which they will perform to other year groups in an end of term performance.



Parent/Carer Curriculum Information

Year 3

Linked subjects

Through this exploration, learning will be linked where appropriate, including in the following subjects:

Geography

Through comparing and contrasting the River Nile and the River Taw, children will use their geographical understanding and enquiry skills to:

- Understand the similarities and differences (both human and physical) between the two regions.
- Compare and summarise data from the two regions
- List the main events in the water cycle.
- List some of the features of a river's course.
- Identify some advantages and disadvantages for different uses of a river.

Global Learning

Through the exploration, children will explore Global Goal 9 with a focus on infrastructures that provide water.

Art

Children will produce sculptures inspired by rivers.

Dance

Children will improvise and develop river motifs within collaborative dance routines.

Maths

Children will explore:

- Fractions
- Money
- Time



Writing

Children will explore the following genres of writing:

- Poetry: A River by Marc Martin
- Explanation Text: an explanation of the water cycle.

Opportunities for writing across the curriculum:

- Comparing and contrasting the locations of the Nile and the Taw using non-chronological report writing structures.
- Desktop publishing- computing. Creating profiles for the two river locations.



Opportunities to build cultural capital

Cultural capital is the essential knowledge that pupils need to be educated citizens, introducing them to the best that has been thought and said, and helping to engender an appreciation of human creativity and achievement.

At NCSPA, we aim to build cultural capital through experiences such as trips, visitors, music and providing local links.

For Year 3, options this term may include:

- Walking trip along the Tarka Trail to create observational drawings of the river.
- Explore a range of artists that take inspiration from water and rivers.
- Link with local sculpture artists.

Opportunities for shared outcomes

Children will have the opportunity to produce or take part in one or more of the following:

- Creating a year group art gallery to display their river sculpture work.
- Perform river inspired dance routines to other year groups.



Opportunities to address Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

Through PHSE, children will have the opportunity to think about the importance of relationships and the diversity that can be found within key human relationships and support structures.

RE will allow pupils to explore our global community from the perspective of Christianity.

Pupils will explore how location can impact on culture and what is significant to others while identifying shared experiences across these contrasting locations.



Further curriculum information

If you would like any further information regarding the curriculum, please:

- Speak to Mrs Lees or Mr Sherwin.
- See your child's class information on Seesaw.
- Contact Mrs Louisa Buttel (Curriculum Leader), through the school office.
- Visit the Curriculum pages on our website.

